



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets

⑪ Publication number:

**0 122 106**  
A2

⑫

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

⑬ Application number: 84302271.6

⑮ Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup>: **B 65 D 25/34, B 65 D 43/10**

⑭ Date of filing: 03.04.84

⑯ Priority: 08.04.83 GB 8309567

⑰ Applicant: MANUPLASTICS LIMITED, Southdown Works  
Kingston Road, London SW20 8SD (GB)

⑲ Date of publication of application: 17.10.84  
Bulletin 84/42

⑳ Inventor: Shepherd, Alan, 76 Pewsey Way, Guildford  
Surrey (GB)

㉑ Designated Contracting States: DE FR IT

㉒ Representative: Alexander, Thomas Bruce et al, Boult,  
Wade & Tennant 27 Furnival Street, London EC4A 1PQ  
(GB)

㉓ Container.

㉔ A container, for cosmetic creams of the like, comprises a hollow body (1) having a base (3) and a side wall (4) defining an opening, and a closure (2) for the opening, the side wall (4) being of single thickness construction, and there being a sleeve (9) secured about the side wall (4) to provide an outer surface flush with a depending portion (11) of the closure (2) which fits over a portion of the side wall (4).

EP 0 122 106 A2

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

0122106

- 1 -

## CONTAINER

This invention relates to a container, and particularly to a container comprising a hollow body having a base and a side wall defining an opening, and a closure for the opening.

5 Cosmetic creams have traditionally been packaged in double-walled containers, such a construction facilitating the provision of a container, such as a jar, in which the closure, when closing the opening, lies flush with the outer 10 surface of the body. Further, such a construction facilitates the use of different materials for the inner and outer surfaces of the body. For example, a material such as polypropylene compatible with the ingredients of cosmetics can be used for the inner 15 wall, while a material such as polystyrene providing a more acceptable surface from the point of view of finish, feel and compatibility with printing, can be used for the outer wall.

However, the traditional double-walled 20 container for cosmetics is now falling into disuse, not least because of a belief that they constitute

0122106

- 2 -

what is called "deceptive packaging".

Thus, there is a need for a new construction of a container offering the above discussed advantages of double-walled containers but without such a construction.

5 According to the present invention a container comprising a hollow body having a base and a side wall defining an opening, and a closure for the opening, is characterised in that the side wall 10 is of single thickness, there being a sleeve closely fitted over the side wall, and the closure having a depending portion fitting over a portion of the side wall of the body and lying flush with the outer surface of the sleeve.

15 The container of this invention thus provides the advantages of traditional double-walled containers in that different materials such as polypropylene and polystyrene can be used for the body and sleeve respectively, with the closure being of the same 20 material as the sleeve, while the objections against the traditional construction are overcome in that the interior and exterior dimensions of the container are closer than with a double-walled container of traditional construction.

25 Preferably the sleeve is an injection moulding whereby it can have a pleasing smooth outer

0122106

- 3 -

surface.

The closure can be a screw cap, there being complimentary threads on the inner surface of the depending portion of the closure and on the underlying portion of the side wall of the body.

5 Preferably means are provided for locking the sleeve in position on the side wall of the body, such as interlocking formations on the inner surface of the sleeve and on the outer surface of  
10 the side wall of the body.

Means can be provided to inhibit rotation of the sleeve about the body such as serrations on the outer surface of the side wall of the body and on the inner surface of the sleeve.

15 Alternative means for positively locating the sleeve on the body may be adopted, such as cooperating screw threads on the inner surface of the sleeve and the outer surface of the side wall of the body.

20 The sleeve may be transparent and decorative, and informational material may be visible therethrough. For instance, a printed label may be inserted between the sleeve and the body.

25 The sleeve may be in either the same colour

0122106

- 4 -

as the body or may be in a contrasting colour.

The invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the drawing which shows a container embodying the invention, the  
5 left hand side being shown in section.

The container shown is circular in cross-section and comprises a hollow body 1 and a closure 2. The body 1 comprises a base 3 and a side wall 4 defining an opening, the base 3 being  
10 indented upwards centrally.

The side wall 4 has screw threads 5 which cooperate with corresponding threads 6 on the inner surface of a depending portion 11 of the closure 2.

15 The side wall 4 also has a pair of different size circumferential ribs 7 and 8 immediately below the closure 2, the larger rib 7 lying above the smaller rib 8.

A sleeve 9 is a close fit over the side  
20 wall 4 of the body 1, the sleeve 9 having a circumferential groove 10 in its inner surface in which the rib 8 on the side wall 4 engages.

In assembly, the sleeve 9 is slid over the side wall 4 of the body 1 from the base end until  
25 the groove 10 receives the rib 8 and the leading

0122106

- 5 -

edge of the sleeve 9 abuts the rib 7.

Means (not shown) such as serrations are present on the inner surface of the sleeve 9 and on the outer surface of the side wall 4 to inhibit mutual rotation of the sleeve and body.

The sleeve 9 and the closure 2 are formed of polystyrene, suitably by injection moulding.

The base 3 and side wall 4 constituting the body 1 of the container are formed from polypropylene.

0122106

- 6 -

CLAIMS:

1. A container comprising a hollow body (1) having a base (3) and a side wall (4) defining an opening, and a closure (2) for the opening, characterised in that the side wall (4) is of 5 single thickness, there being a sleeve (9) closely fitted over the side wall (4), and the closure (9) having a depending portion (11) fitting over a portion of the side wall (4) of the body (1) and lying flush with the outer surface of the sleeve (9).

10

2. A container as claimed in Claim 1, characterised in that the closure (2) is a screw cap, there being complimentary threads (6,5) on the inner surface of the depending portion (11) of the 15 closure (2) and on the underlying portion of the side wall (4) of the body (1).

3. A container as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised by means for locking the 20 sleeve (9) in position on the side wall (4) of the body (1).

0122106

- 7 -

4. A container as claimed in Claim 3,  
characterised in that the means for locking  
comprises a circumferential rib (8) on the outer  
surface of the side wall (4) of the body (1) and  
5 a corresponding groove (10) in the inner surface of  
the sleeve (9), which groove (10) receives the  
rib (8).

5. A container as claimed in Claim 4,  
10 characterised in that the outer surface of the  
side wall (4) of the body (1) is formed with a  
further circumferential rib (7) against which an  
end of the sleeve (9) abuts.

15 6. A container as claimed in any  
preceding claim, characterised by means to  
inhibit rotation of the sleeve (9) about the  
body (1).

20 7. A container as claimed in Claim 6,  
characterised in that the means for preventing  
rotation comprises serrations on the outer surface  
of the side wall (4) of the body (1) and in the  
inner surface of the sleeve (9).

0122106

- 8 -

8. A container as claimed in Claim 4 or  
Claim 6, characterised in that said means comprises  
cooperating screw threads on the inner surface of  
the sleeve (9) and on the outer surface of the  
5 side wall (4) of the body (1).

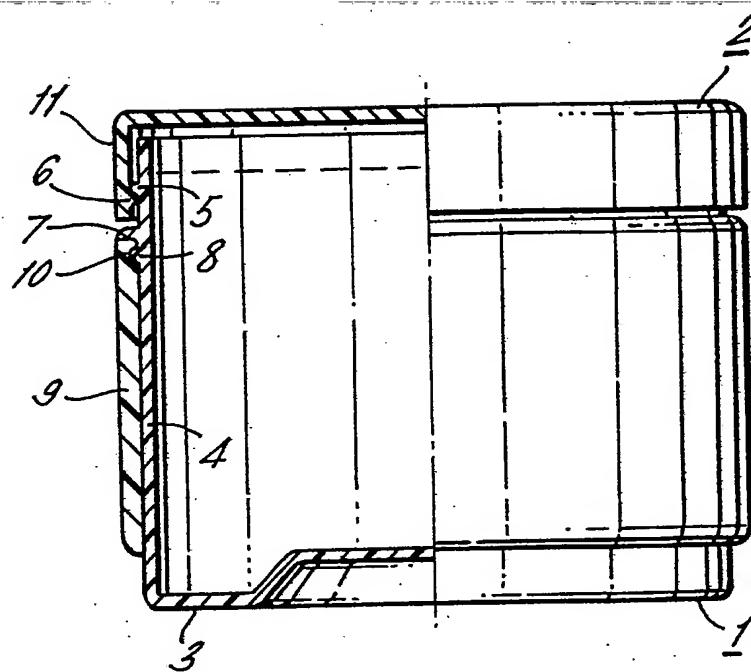
9. A container as claimed in any preceding  
claim, characterised in that the sleeve (9) is  
transparent.

10

10. A container as claimed in any preceding  
claim, characterised in that the body (1) is of  
polypropylene and the sleeve (9) is of polystyrene.

0122106

111



**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- BLACK BORDERS**
- IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**